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management of our national forests. BOERKER² has collected and organized a mass of scattered data and presented them in a very readable form. While particularly well suited in its style of presentation to appeal to the general public, it will prove equally welcome to foresters and botanists who wish to know the history of the organization of these forests and the different forms of administration under which they have attained their present dimensions. The addition of a bibliography would have added much to the scientific value of the volume without detracting from its popular interest. It may also be criticized because of the lack of a suitable index to facilitate reference; but on the whole the work is well done, the material has been well organized, is attractively presented, and so far as the reviewer is able to judge the data are entirely accurate and reliable.—GEO. D. FULLER.

Grasses and grasslands of South Africa.—In order to facilitate the study of the extensive grasslands of South Africa, BEWS³ has prepared a series of keys for the identification of the 500 species of grasses which form so conspicuous a portion of the flora of that part of the continent. These keys seem to be well suited to serve the purpose for which they are intended, but the other parts of the volume are of far more interest to the American reader. In them are discussed: (1) the structural and ecological characteristics of the principal species; (2) general character of the grasslands and the development of the various association types; and (3) economic application of the ecological principles involved. It is interesting to find types comparable to the "short grass," "wire grass," and "prairie grass" of North America, as well as a tall coarse *Andropogon* association, this last developing upon potential woodland areas, and a mountain tussock grassland. The discussion of the successional relations of these and other association types into which grasses enter gives a comprehensive general sketch of the plant communities of the major portion of South Africa.

In the final chapter the feeding value of the different types of grassland, as well as the comparative merits of native and introduced species, is discussed. The effect upon the productivity of various types of grassland by various kinds of grazing and the results from grass burning are considered and some of the ecological problems involved are pointed out. An appendix contains a list of English, Dutch, Zulu, and Sesuto names of the more important species.—GEO. D. FULLER.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS

Vegetation of Cape Breton.—Separated from the mainland of Nova Scotia by a narrow strait, the island of Cape Breton lies between the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Atlantic in latitude 45-47° N. It possesses a climate

² BOERKER, RICHARD, H.D., Our national forests. pp. lxxix+238. figs. 86. 1918. New York: Macmillan Co.

³ BEWS, J. W., The grasses and grasslands of South Africa. 8vo. pp. 161. figs. 24. map. Pietermaritzburg: Davis & Sons. \$2.00 (postpaid from author).